# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1006
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2015
Amendment in Orders of TRAI
Kalvakuntla Smt. Kavitha

**Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has recently notified the amendment orders relating to commercial subscribers for broadcasters and cable subscribers;

(b) if so, the details along with the salient features thereof;

(c) whether under the notified orders, broadcasters have to file tripartite agreements with TRAI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING {COL RAJYAVARDHAN RATHORE (Retd.)}

(a) (a) to (d) Yes Sir,

(b) On 8th September 2015, the TRAI had notified two Tariff Amendment Orders (TAOs) relating to TV services for commercial subscribers, one applicable for TV services being provided through analog cable TV systems (Non-CAS areas) and the other one applicable for TV services being provided through Digital Addressable cable TV systems (DAS). The TAOs are the following:
(i) The Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Second) Tariff (Fifteenth Amendment) Order, 2015 (No. 4 of 2015) dated 08th September 2015.
(ii) The Telecommunication (Broadcasting and Cable) Services (Fourth) (Addressable Systems) Tariff (Fifth Amendment) Order, 2015 (No. 5 of 2015) dated 08th September 2015
Full text of the notifications is available on TRAI"s website www.trai.gov.in.
The salient features of these TAOs are as under:
a) "Subscriber", 'Ordinary subscriber", & "Commercial subscriber" have been defined.
b) Total forbearance has been prescribed both at the wholesale & retail levels with respect to tariffs for Commercial subscribers and the broadcasters have the option to enter into tripartite agreements with the Distribution Platform Operators (DPOs) and the commercial subscribers, if so desired.
c) Broadcasters have been mandated to offer their channels/bouquet of channels for commercial subscribers, on non-discriminatory terms and conditions.
d) The Broadcasters have been mandated to file their tripartite agreements, if such an agreement is done with commercial subscribers, with the Authority within 30 days of entering into such an agreement.
e) TV Signal to commercial subscribers have to be provided by DPOs only in accordance with "Policy Guidelines for Up-linking/Down-linking of Television Channels".
These Tariff Amendment Orders have been notified in accordance with the Hon"ble TDSAT"s Order dated 9th March, 2015 in the matter of 'Indian Broadcasting Foundation &OrsVs TRAI (Appeal No 7(C)/2014)'. It is expected that with the coming into force of these changes in the regulatory framework for commercial subscribers, distribution of TV services to commercial subscribers would be streamlined and would be available to them at competitive rates. It is also envisaged that it would balance the interests of all the stakeholders in the value chain and bring in complete transparency in the business transactions.

Â© Yes

(d) Details as brought out in response to Point (b) above.

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